

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01864 141319Z

60

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 W

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R 141220Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7085

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1864

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, GB

SUBJ: GENERAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AND NEW LIBREVILLE AIRPORT

REF: LIBREVILLE 1747 (NOTAL)

1. DURING MEETING WITH GABONESE ASECNA REP. FANGUINOVENY NOV. 14, SUBJECT OF NEW AIRPORT RAISED BY EMBOFF. FANGUINOVENY CONFIRMED FINANCING WAS MAIN PROBLEM, AND THAT AIRPORT WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS. WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED GENERAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT'S (GAD) INTENT (REFTEL) FANGUINOVENY SAID YES, THEY HAD MADE PROPOSITION BUT ASECNA HAD BEEN TOLD THAT GAD NEW COMPANY THAT HAD NEVER DONE ANY SUCH WORK BEFORE. EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION IS THAT THIS NOT TRUE, AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION THAT COULD BE PASSED ONTO FANGUINOVENY TO REFUTE CHARGE. IF USDOC AND GAD AGREE, SUGGEST INFO ALSO BE PASSED TO EMBASSY DAKAR FOR ASECNA HEADQUARTERS, PARTICULARLY GABONESE DIRECTOR GENERAL MALEKOU.

2. COMMENT: SUSPECT CHARGE THAT GAD NEW FIRM, AND IMPLICATION THAT THEY INCOMPETENT CAME FROM FRENCH INTERESTS UNABLE TO MEET GAD PROPOSITION AND INTERESTED IN OBTAINING AIRPORT DESIGN CONTRACT. STEIGMAN

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